DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 460 353 CS 013 595

TITLE	Progress Report on Second and Third Graders' Reading Abilities, 1998-99. Executive Summary.
INSTITUTION	Louisiana State Dept. of Education, Baton Rouge.
PUB DATE	1998-12-00
NOTE	16p.
PUB TYPE	Numerical/Quantitative Data (110) -- Reports - Research (143)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	*Academic Standards; *Grade 2; *Grade 3; Primary Education; Reading Ability; *Reading Achievement; Reading Research; State Legislation; *State Standards; Tables (Data)
IDENTIFIERS	*Louisiana

ABSTRACT

This executive summary reports on the number of students not reading on grade level in all second and third grades throughout Louisiana. The report notes the provisions of the legislation that requires such data be generated, and discusses selection of the Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA) as the uniform assessment instrument to be implemented statewide in the Fall of 1998. The report then presents a summary of the findings of the Fall 1998 administration of the DRA, noting that: (1) 43.64% of the second graders were reading on or above grade level; (2) 65.52% of the third graders assessed were reading on or above grade level; and (3) 54.49% of the second and third graders were reading on or above grade level. A table listing second and third grade reading ability by parish is attached. (RS)

Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made
from the original document.

ED 460 353

Louisiana Department of Education

December, 1998

1998-99 Progress Report on Second, and Third Graders' Reading Abilities

Executive Summary

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)
This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.
Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.
Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE AND DISSEMINATE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY
L. Hradsky
TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)

Introduction and Background

This report is submitted in compliance with R.S. 17:181 (House Bill 2444 --Act 450) enacted during the 1997 Regular Legislative Session. This law directed that the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), in cooperation with the Department of Education and all public schools, report on the number of students not reading on grade level in all second and third grades throughout the State.

The Legislature, BESE, and the SDE are committed to improving the reading and mathematics abilities of all students in Louisiana, with a primary emphasis on early intervention. In this regard, the Legislature in 1997 appropriated 30 million dollars for a K-3 Reading and Mathematics Initiative, and in the 1998 Legislative Session 20 million dollars was allocated for the same purpose. The target population for this initiative are those students who are at risk of experiencing difficulty in reading and/or math in kindergarten through third grade.

Specifically, R.S. 17:181 included the following provisions:

- *each governing authority shall implement at each elementary school a reading program that is designed to teach students to read on grade level by not later than the end of first grade;*
- *the program shall include but not be limited to a phonics component;*
- *each second and third grade teacher shall report the number of students not reading on grade level;*
- *the data for each school and for each school system, and for the state as a whole, shall be*

CS 013 595

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

reported in the school progress profile.

The legislation did ***not*** address how the students were to be assessed or which instrument(s) were to be used. However, specific time lines for reporting results of the assessment were established in the legislation, as follows:

- Within the first 30 days of the opening of school, teachers will report the number of students who cannot read at grade level to the principal and system superintendent;
- Within 60 days of the opening of school, the information will be forwarded to the State Superintendent and the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education;
- Within 90 days of the opening of school, the information will be compiled and reported to the House Committee on Education and Senate Committee on Education.

The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education also directed through its rule-making authority, that school districts assess **all first grade students and that a post assessment** be given to second and third graders in order to measure progress in reading over the year.

During the initial year of implementation (1997-98), school districts were allowed to select an appropriate means for measuring students' reading abilities. The SDE and BESE allowed local choice of assessment tools in the initial year due to the extremely short time frame for implementation of the legislative request. Basal reading tests, informal reading surveys, computerized reading inventories, and other measurements such as norm-referenced tests or criterion-referenced tests were among the methods used in assessment.

BESE, the SDE, and the Legislature were all cognizant of the need to establish a uniform method for measuring reading performance state-wide.

Assessing Students' Reading Ability – *The Developmental Reading Assessment (DRA)*

In May the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education approved the *Developmental Reading Assessment*, published by Celebration Press, ***as the uniform assessment instrument*** to be implemented statewide in the fall of 1998. The *Developmental Reading Assessment* is an individually administered instrument that evaluates the two major aspects of reading: accuracy of oral reading and comprehension through reading and retelling of narrative stories. Both aspects of reading are critical to independence as a reader. The assessment consists of twenty stories that increase in difficulty. Factors which contribute to the gradient of difficulty of the stories include the number of words on a page, complexity of vocabulary, length of the stories, degree of support from the pictures, as well as complexity of sentence and story structure.

The *DRA* is appropriate for assessing grade-level reading ability and is also used for early detection of reading difficulties. The instrument helps teachers by focusing on specific problems of each child and by serving as a guide to classroom reading instruction, based on the individual needs of each child. Early diagnosis of specific reading difficulties, when matched with appropriate instruction, can help to ensure that students' progress in school and become successful lifelong learners.

With the uniform assessment in place, the Legislature, BESE, SDE and local school districts and schools will be provided with a more accurate and valid picture of the reading abilities of our students.

Results of the Fall 1998 *DRA* Assessment of Reading Performance

This report describes the reading abilities of second and third grade students during the first 30 days of the 1998-99 school year. **Caution should be used when comparing first year (1997-98) results with the following 1998-99 Fall data since a uniform assessment tool was not in**

place in 1997-98.

Students Assessed and Included in the Fall 1998 Survey

In determining which students were assessed, the Louisiana Department of Education used the following criteria:

- all regular education students who were enrolled as of October 1, 1998
- all special education students whose IEP designates that they are in a specially designed, regular instructional program;
- all Limited English Proficient (LEP) students who were enrolled in and completed at least two full consecutive academic years in an English-speaking school (including kindergarten);
- students in alternative programs or placement who are addressing regular curriculum standards;
- all disabled students according to Section 504.

Summary of Findings -- Fall 1998 Reading Assessment

Based on the analysis of the data provided by classroom teachers, the findings are noted as follows:

1. Of the 58,615 second graders assessed

   - 56.36% were reading below grade level
   - 29.53% were reading on grade level, and
   - 14.11% were reading above grade level.

   In summary, **43.64%** of the second graders who were assessed are reading on or above grade level.

---

2. Of the 57,625 third graders assessed

   - 34.48% were reading below grade level,
   - 45.72% were reading on grade level, and
   - 19.80% were reading above grade level.

   In summary, **65.52%** of the third graders who were assessed are reading on or above grade level.

---

3. Of the 116,240 second and third graders assessed

   - 45.51% were reading below grade level,
   - 37.55% were reading on grade level, and
   - 16.94% were reading above grade level.

   In summary, **54.49%** of the second and third graders who were assessed are reading on or above grade level.

Fall 1998
Second and Third Grade Reading Ability Report
Table 1
Parish and State

Parish	# Students Assessed	Below Grade Level		On Grade Level		Above Grade Level	
		# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent
Acadia							
02	809	554	68.48	168	20.77	87	10.75
03	790	278	35.19	364	46.08	148	18.73
Parish Total	1,599	832	52.03	532	33.27	235	14.70
Allen							
02	375	294	78.40	30	8.00	51	13.60
03	363	101	27.82	35	9.64	227	62.53
Parish Total	738	395	53.52	65	8.81	278	37.67
Ascension							
02	1,158	743	64.16	290	25.04	125	10.79
03	1,077	366	33.98	506	46.98	205	19.03
Parish Total	2,235	1,109	49.62	796	35.62	330	14.77
Assumption							
02	326	249	76.38	57	17.48	20	6.13
03	368	163	44.29	173	47.01	32	8.70
Parish Total	694	412	59.37	230	33.14	52	7.49
Avoyelles							
02	567	342	60.32	173	30.51	52	9.17
03	556	228	41.01	294	52.88	34	6.12
Parish Total	1,123	570	50.76	467	41.59	86	7.66
Beauregard							
02	451	144	31.93	201	44.57	106	23.50
03	481	81	16.84	216	44.91	184	38.25
Parish Total	932	225	24.14	417	44.74	290	31.12

Note: Percents may not add to 100% due to rounding

Fall 1998
Second and Third Grade Reading Ability Report
Table 1
Parish and State

Parish	# Students Assessed	Below Grade Level		On Grade Level		Above Grade Level	
		# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent
Bienville							
02	236	169	71.61	31	13.14	36	15.25
03	208	72	34.62	95	45.67	41	19.71
Parish Total	444	241	54.28	126	28.38	77	17.34
Bossier							
02	1,475	653	44.27	535	36.27	287	19.46
03	1,473	404	27.43	713	48.40	356	24.17
Parish Total	2,948	1,057	35.85	1,248	42.33	643	21.81
Caddo							
02	3,679	2,096	56.97	917	24.93	666	18.10
03	3,556	1,173	32.99	1,258	35.38	1,125	31.64
Parish Total	7,235	3,269	45.18	2,175	30.06	1,791	24.75
Calcasieu							
02	2,420	1,022	42.23	855	35.33	543	22.44
03	2,457	510	20.76	1,170	47.62	777	31.62
Parish Total	4,877	1,532	31.41	2,025	41.52	1,320	27.07
Caldwell							
02	170	113	66.47	38	22.35	19	11.18
03	141	44	31.21	82	58.16	15	10.64
Parish Total	311	157	50.48	120	38.59	34	10.93
Cameron							
02	153	48	31.37	82	53.59	23	15.03
03	162	34	20.99	94	58.02	34	20.99
Parish Total	315	82	26.03	176	55.87	57	18.10

Note: Percents may not add to 100% due to rounding

Fall 1998
Second and Third Grade Reading Ability Report
Table 1
Parish and State

Parish	# Students Assessed	Below Grade Level		On Grade Level		Above Grade Level	
		# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent
Catahoula							
02	175	131	74.86	34	19.43	10	5.71
03	166	68	40.96	84	50.60	14	8.43
Parish Total	341	199	58.36	118	34.60	24	7.04
Claiborne							
02	253	193	76.28	50	19.76	10	3.95
03	236	146	61.86	75	31.78	15	6.36
Parish Total	489	339	69.33	125	25.56	25	5.11
Concordia							
02	313	188	60.06	96	30.67	29	9.27
03	324	114	35.19	151	46.60	59	18.21
Parish Total	637	302	47.41	247	38.78	88	13.81
DeSoto							
02	384	245	63.80	95	24.74	44	11.46
03	399	147	36.84	166	41.60	86	21.55
Parish Total	783	392	50.06	261	33.33	130	16.60
East Baton Rouge							
02	4,133	2,118	51.25	1,332	32.23	683	16.53
03	4,053	1,497	36.94	1,825	45.03	731	18.04
Parish Total	8,186	3,615	44.16	3,157	38.57	1,414	17.27
East Carroll							
02	199	142	71.36	50	25.13	7	3.52
03	140	64	45.71	53	37.86	23	16.43
Parish Total	339	206	60.77	103	30.38	30	8.85

Note: Percents may not add to 100% due to rounding

Fall 1998
Second and Third Grade Reading Ability Report
Table 1
Parish and State

Parish	# Students Assessed	Below Grade Level		On Grade Level		Above Grade Level	
		# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent
East Feliciana							
02	191	145	75.92	28	14.66	18	9.42
03	213	100	46.95	73	34.27	40	18.78
Parish Total	404	245	60.64	101	25.00	58	14.36
Evangeline							
02	521	302	57.97	132	25.34	87	16.70
03	499	151	30.26	198	39.68	150	30.06
Parish Total	1,020	453	44.41	330	32.35	237	23.24
Franklin							
02	327	238	72.78	63	19.27	26	7.95
03	345	237	68.70	80	23.19	28	8.12
Parish Total	672	475	70.68	143	21.28	54	8.04
Grant							
02	311	113	36.33	161	51.77	37	11.90
03	278	64	23.02	176	63.31	38	13.67
Parish Total	589	177	30.05	337	57.22	75	12.73
Iberia							
02	1,204	794	65.95	269	22.34	141	11.71
03	1,127	457	40.55	491	43.57	179	15.88
Parish Total	2,331	1,251	53.67	760	32.60	320	13.73
Iberville							
02	437	342	78.26	70	16.02	25	5.72
03	401	253	63.09	113	28.18	35	8.73
Parish Total	838	595	71.00	183	21.84	60	7.16

Note: Percents may not add to 100% due to rounding

Fall 1998
Second and Third Grade Reading Ability Report
Table 1
Parish and State

Parish	# Students Assessed	Below Grade Level		On Grade Level		Above Grade Level	
		# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent
Jackson							
02	192	126	65.63	38	19.79	28	14.58
03	213	66	30.99	80	37.56	67	31.46
Parish Total	405	192	47.41	118	29.14	95	23.46
Jefferson							
02	4,129	2,327	56.36	1,179	28.55	623	15.09
03	4,189	1,334	31.85	2,348	56.05	507	12.10
Parish Total	8,318	3,661	44.01	3,527	42.40	1,130	13.58
Jefferson Davis							
02	454	274	60.35	9	1.98	171	37.67
03	451	104	23.06	16	3.55	331	73.39
Parish Total	905	378	41.77	25	2.76	502	55.47
Lafayette							
02	2,330	1,148	49.27	692	29.70	490	21.03
03	2,488	719	28.90	996	40.03	773	31.07
Parish Total	4,818	1,867	38.75	1,688	35.04	1,263	26.21
Lafourche							
02	1,242	618	49.76	339	27.29	285	22.95
03	1,189	346	29.10	465	39.11	378	31.79
Parish Total	2,431	964	39.65	804	33.07	663	27.27
LaSalle							
02	214	132	61.68	78	36.45	4	1.87
03	191	51	26.70	135	70.68	5	2.62
Parish Total	405	183	45.19	213	52.59	9	2.22

Note: Percents may not add to 100% due to rounding

Fall 1998
Second and Third Grade Reading Ability Report
Table 1
Parish and State

Parish	# Students Assessed	Below Grade Level		On Grade Level		Above Grade Level	
		# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent
Lincoln							
02	416	288	69.23	67	16.11	61	14.66
03	418	150	35.89	204	48.80	64	15.31
Parish Total	834	438	52.52	271	32.49	125	14.99
Livingston							
02	1,524	879	57.68	454	29.79	191	12.53
03	1,437	390	27.14	747	51.98	300	20.88
Parish Total	2,961	1,269	42.86	1,201	40.56	491	16.58
Madison							
02	192	141	73.44	47	24.48	4	2.08
03	195	90	46.15	97	49.74	8	4.10
Parish Total	387	231	59.69	144	37.21	12	3.10
Morehouse							
02	482	279	57.88	128	26.56	75	15.56
03	472	182	38.56	237	50.21	53	11.23
Parish Total	954	461	48.32	365	38.26	128	13.42
Natchitoches							
02	530	278	52.45	151	28.49	101	19.06
03	517	201	38.88	199	38.49	117	22.63
Parish Total	1,047	479	45.75	350	33.43	218	20.82
Orleans							
02	6,653	4,861	73.06	1,312	19.72	480	7.21
03	6,060	3,297	54.41	2,123	35.03	640	10.56
Parish Total	12,713	8,158	64.17	3,435	27.02	1,120	8.81

Note: Percents may not add to 100% due to rounding

Fall 1998
Second and Third Grade Reading Ability Report
Table 1
Parish and State

Parish	# Students Assessed	Below Grade Level		On Grade Level		Above Grade Level	
		# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent
Ouachita							
02	1,311	615	46.91	444	33.87	252	19.22
03	1,324	346	26.13	628	47.43	350	26.44
Parish Total	2,635	961	36.47	1,072	40.68	602	22.85
Plaquemines							
02	384	155	40.36	140	36.46	89	23.18
03	390	118	30.26	194	49.74	78	20.00
Parish Total	774	273	35.27	334	43.15	167	21.58
Pointe Coupee							
02	245	153	62.45	55	22.45	37	15.10
03	234	115	49.15	92	39.32	27	11.54
Parish Total	479	268	55.95	147	30.69	64	13.36
Rapides							
02	1,675	682	40.72	900	53.73	93	5.55
03	1,717	392	22.83	1,120	65.23	205	11.94
Parish Total	3,392	1,074	31.66	2,020	59.55	298	8.79
Red River							
02	144	97	67.36	47	32.64	0	0.00
03	142	80	56.34	48	33.80	14	9.86
Parish Total	286	177	61.89	95	33.22	14	4.90
Richland							
02	338	293	86.69	30	8.88	15	4.44
03	319	211	66.14	103	32.29	5	1.57
Parish Total	657	504	76.71	133	20.24	20	3.04

Note: Percents may not add to 100% due to rounding

Fall 1998
Second and Third Grade Reading Ability Report
Table 1
Parish and State

Parish	# Students Assessed	Below Grade Level		On Grade Level		Above Grade Level	
		# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent
Sabine							
02	379	236	62.27	143	37.73	0	0.00
03	326	100	30.67	209	64.11	17	5.21
Parish Total	705	336	47.66	352	49.93	17	2.41
St. Bernard							
02	676	439	64.94	172	25.44	65	9.62
03	697	237	34.00	271	38.88	189	27.12
Parish Total	1,373	676	49.24	443	32.27	254	18.50
St. Charles							
02	789	310	39.29	277	35.11	202	25.60
03	748	103	13.77	316	42.25	329	43.98
Parish Total	1,537	413	26.87	593	38.58	531	34.55
St. Helena							
02	99	67	67.68	31	31.31	1	1.01
03	106	58	54.72	45	42.45	3	2.83
Parish Total	205	125	60.98	76	37.07	4	1.95
St. James							
02	333	212	63.66	74	22.22	47	14.11
03	315	122	38.73	132	41.90	61	19.37
Parish Total	648	334	51.54	206	31.79	108	16.67
St. John							
02	534	331	61.99	151	28.28	52	9.74
03	509	260	51.08	169	33.20	80	15.72
Parish Total	1,043	591	56.66	320	30.68	132	12.66

Note: Percents may not add to 100% due to rounding

Fall 1998
Second and Third Grade Reading Ability Report
Table 1
Parish and State

Parish	# Students Assessed	Below Grade Level		On Grade Level		Above Grade Level	
		# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent
St. Landry							
02	1,250	526	42.08	469	37.52	255	20.40
03	1,201	318	26.48	659	54.87	224	18.65
Parish Total	2,451	844	34.43	1,128	46.02	479	19.54
St. Martin							
02	676	419	61.98	164	24.26	93	13.76
03	659	258	39.15	308	46.74	93	14.11
Parish Total	1,335	677	50.71	472	35.36	186	13.93
St. Mary							
02	891	607	68.13	186	20.88	98	11.00
03	860	335	38.95	337	39.19	188	21.86
Parish Total	1,751	942	53.80	523	29.87	286	16.33
St. Tammany							
02	2,319	787	33.94	1,133	48.86	399	17.21
03	2,491	469	18.83	1,521	61.06	501	20.11
Parish Total	4,810	1,256	26.11	2,654	55.18	900	18.71
Tangipahoa							
02	1,425	870	61.05	346	24.28	209	14.67
03	1,385	515	37.18	621	44.84	249	17.98
Parish Total	2,810	1,385	49.29	967	34.41	458	16.30
Tensas							
02	77	27	35.06	50	64.94	0	0.00
03	81	23	28.40	58	71.60	0	0.00
Parish Total	158	50	31.65	108	68.35	0	0.00

Note: Percents may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Fall 1998
Second and Third Grade Reading Ability Report
Table 1
Parish and State

Parish	# Students Assessed	Below Grade Level		On Grade Level		Above Grade Level	
		# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent
Terrebonne							
02	1,613	863	53.50	568	35.21	182	11.28
03	1,640	471	28.72	869	52.99	300	18.29
Parish Total	3,253	1,334	41.01	1,437	44.17	482	14.82
Union							
02	273	53	19.41	216	79.12	4	1.47
03	303	47	15.51	252	83.17	4	1.32
Parish Total	576	100	17.36	468	81.25	8	1.39
Vermilion							
02	715	472	66.01	188	26.29	55	7.69
03	711	330	46.41	285	40.08	96	13.50
Parish Total	1,426	802	56.24	473	33.17	151	10.59
Vernon							
02	851	335	39.37	401	47.12	115	13.51
03	855	168	19.65	604	70.64	93	10.88
Parish Total	1,706	503	29.48	1,005	58.91	208	12.19
Washington							
02	341	254	74.49	50	14.66	37	10.85
03	369	180	48.78	124	33.60	65	17.62
Parish Total	710	434	61.13	174	24.51	102	14.37
Webster							
02	598	261	43.65	254	42.47	83	13.88
03	582	153	26.29	274	47.08	155	26.63
Parish Total	1,180	414	35.08	528	44.75	238	20.17

Note: Percents may not add to 100% due to rounding

Fall 1998
Second and Third Grade Reading Ability Report
Table 1
Parish and State

Parish	# Students Assessed	Below Grade Level		On Grade Level		Above Grade Level	
		# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent
West Baton Rouge							
02	271	176	64.94	50	18.45	45	16.61
03	288	126	43.75	112	38.89	50	17.36
Parish Total	559	302	54.03	162	28.98	95	16.99
West Carroll							
02	181	82	45.30	79	43.65	20	11.05
03	156	31	19.87	93	59.62	32	20.51
Parish Total	337	113	33.53	172	51.04	52	15.43
West Feliciana							
02	153	91	59.48	31	20.26	31	20.26
03	164	54	32.93	66	40.24	44	26.83
Parish Total	317	145	45.74	97	30.60	75	23.66
Winn							
02	252	107	42.46	123	48.81	22	8.73
03	235	62	26.38	154	65.53	19	8.09
Parish Total	487	169	34.70	277	56.88	41	8.42
City of Monroe							
02	798	535	67.04	214	26.82	49	6.14
03	814	400	49.14	365	44.84	49	6.02
Parish Total	1,612	935	58.00	579	35.92	98	6.08
City of Bogalusa							
02	237	199	83.97	20	8.44	18	7.59
03	227	79	34.80	127	55.95	21	9.25
Parish Total	464	278	59.91	147	31.68	39	8.41

Note: Percents may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Fall 1998
Second and Third Grade Reading Ability Report
Table 1
Parish and State

Parish	# Students Assessed	Below Grade Level		On Grade Level		Above Grade Level	
		# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent	# Students	Percent
Lab Schools							
02	147	44	29.93	47	31.97	56	38.10
03	139	21	15.11	60	43.17	58	41.73
Total	286	65	22.73	107	37.41	114	39.86
Special Schools							
02	15	11	73.33	3	20.00	1	6.67
03	5	5	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Total	20	16	80.00	3	15.00	1	5.00
Louisiana							
02	58,615	33,038	56.36	17,307	29.53	8,270	14.11
03	57,625	19,869	34.48	26,348	45.72	11,418	19.80
State Total	116,240	52,907	45.51	43,655	37.55	19,688	16.94

Note: Percents may not add to 100% due to rounding.